

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Original) An apparatus for transmitting broadcast messages to a plurality of receivers in a communications network, said network having multiple paging channels, wherein each of said multiple paging channels is divided into predetermined slot cycles, wherein each of said predetermined slot cycles is divided into time slots, said apparatus comprising:
 - page transmit controller means for providing a plurality of page timing signals indicative of each time slot within a first slot cycle and for providing a broadcast message timing signal indicative of a single time slot within a second slot cycle;
 - broadcast page buffer means for redundantly providing a broadcast page in accordance with said plurality of page timing signals, wherein said broadcast page contains broadcast message timing information;
 - broadcast message buffer means for providing said broadcast message in accordance with said broadcast message timing signal;
 - modulator means for providing said broadcast page upon each of said multiple paging channels and for providing said broadcast message upon each of said multiple paging channels;
 - and
 - transmitter means for transmitting said broadcast page and said broadcast message.
3. (Original) An apparatus for receiving broadcast messages from a transmitter in a communication network, said network having multiple paging channels, wherein each of said multiple paging channels is divided into predetermined slot cycles, wherein each of said predetermined slot cycles is divided into time slots, said network further containing multiple receivers, wherein each of said multiple receivers monitors an assigned paging channel of said

multiple paging channels at a first time slot within each predetermined slot cycle, said apparatus comprising:

page receive controller means for providing a broadcast page timing signal indicative of said assigned time slot within each slot cycle;

broadcast message controller means for providing a broadcast message timing signal indicative of said first time slot within a second slot cycle;

receiver means for monitoring said assigned paging channel in accordance with said broadcast page timing signal, for receiving a broadcast page, and for receiving said broadcast message in accordance with said broadcast message timing signal; and

decoder means for decoding said broadcast page and for providing said decoded broadcast page to said page receive controller, wherein said page receive controller is further for determining in accordance with a predetermined set of user preferences, whether to receive said broadcast message.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

said broadcast page buffer means further for providing a new page indicator in each time slot of said first cycle, wherein said new page indicator indicates whether or not a new broadcast page is available to be received;

said modulator means further for providing said new page indicator upon each of said multiple paging channels; and

said transmitter means further for transmitting said new page indicator.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein:

said receiver means is further for receiving a new page indicator, wherein said new page indicator indicates whether or not a new broadcast page is available to be received; and

said decoder means is further for preventing said receiver means from monitoring said assigned one of said multiple paging channels for said broadcast page if said new page indicator indicates that no broadcast page is available to be received.

6. (New) A method for transmitting broadcast messages to a plurality of receivers in a communications network, said network having multiple paging channels, wherein each of said multiple paging channels is divided into predetermined slot cycles, wherein each of said predetermined slot cycles is divided into time slots, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of page timing signals indicative of each time slot within a first slot cycle and providing a broadcast message timing signal indicative of a single time slot within a second slot cycle;

redundantly providing a broadcast page in accordance with said plurality of page timing signals, wherein said broadcast page includes broadcast message timing information;

providing said broadcast message in accordance with said broadcast message timing signal;

providing said broadcast page upon each of said multiple paging channels and providing said broadcast message upon each of said multiple paging channels; and

transmitting said broadcast page and said broadcast message.

7. (New) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

providing a new page indicator in each time slot of said first cycle, wherein said new page indicator indicates whether or not a new broadcast page is available to be received;

providing said new page indicator upon each of said multiple paging channels; and

transmitting said new page indicator.

8. (New) A method for receiving broadcast messages from a transmitter in a communication network, said network having multiple paging channels, wherein each of said multiple paging channels is divided into predetermined slot cycles, wherein each of said predetermined slot cycles is divided into time slots, said network further including multiple receivers, wherein each of said multiple receivers monitors an assigned paging channel of said multiple paging channels at a first time slot within each predetermined slot cycle, said method comprising:

providing a broadcast page timing signal indicative of said assigned time slot within each slot cycle;

providing a broadcast message timing signal indicative of said first time slot within a second slot cycle;

monitoring said assigned paging channel in accordance with said broadcast page timing signal, receiving a broadcast page, and receiving said broadcast message in accordance with said broadcast message timing signal; and

decoding said broadcast page and providing said decoded broadcast page to a page receive controller, wherein said page receive controller determines in accordance with a predetermined set of user preferences, whether to receive said broadcast message.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

receiving a new page indicator, wherein said new page indicator indicates whether a new broadcast page is available to be received; and

preventing monitoring said assigned one of said multiple paging channels for said broadcast page if said new page indicator indicates that no broadcast page is available to be received.